

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 924

By Cobb J

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jacob Henley on capturing the 2008 TSSAA State Wrestling Championship in the 125-pound category.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of our State; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Henley, a senior at Rhea County High School, is one such noteworthy athlete who recently attained an unparalleled measure of athletic success when he captured the Tennessee Secondary Schools Academic Association (TSSAA) State Wrestling Tournament's 125-pound title in February of 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's McKenzie Arena; and

WHEREAS, with roots tracing back to the ancient Greeks and the early Olympics, wrestling is a most demanding sport, and Mr. Henley has proved himself to be a remarkable wrestler and a valuable team player; and

WHEREAS, this tremendous champion drew strength from the support of his teammates and received vital encouragement from his coach, Zac Brown, who was named the Chattanooga-area Coach of the Year in 2007 by the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the state tournament, a dedicated Jacob Henley challenged himself at practice every day by wrestling teammate Hunter Daniel, a champion in the 140-pound category, and attended wrestling camp in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, after the first four rounds of the state tournament, Mr. Henley (28-2) found himself positioned opposite Notre Dame's Tee Boone, who came into the tournament undefeated and with two state titles under his belt; Jacob drew upon his competitive spirit and unsurpassed ability to earn a 7-2 victory over his opponent; and

WHEREAS, the victory was especially sweet, as Jacob has struggled all season long with a neck stinger; and

WHEREAS, in addition to winning this year's state title, Mr. Henley also earned medals at last year's state tournament, this latest accomplishment marked the culmination of a spectacular high school career; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Henley epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are vital in achieving success and that are also characteristic of a true Tennessean; the talent and determination exhibited by this young man surely bode well for his future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henley's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Jacob Henley on winning first place at the 2008 TSSAA State Wrestling Tournament in the 125-pound category, applaud his impressive high school wrestling career, and join with his family, friends, coaches, and teammates in celebrating his achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to him our best wishes for every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.